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"'Twere man's perdition to be safe  
When for the truth he ought to die."

Lincoln loved not war—nor more than we—who loved humanity as few men on earth have loved humankind, nor more than Woodrow Wilson, who endured all for peace until he must needs dare war therefor. And Lincoln, on the 4th day of March, 1865, as the shadows were beginning to darken around him after four long, terrible, bloody years of war, said, and we, the heirs of his spirit and of his hope, proclaim anew: "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace."

## WOMAN'S WORK FOR INTERNATIONALISM

### The Woman's Peace Party

By LUCIA AMES MEAD

PEACE, according to pacifism, means "a condition of organized living together among nations." This definition, placed on the first annual report and on the last program of the Woman's Peace Party, indicates the type of pacifism for which this organization has stood since its formation three years ago. Its third annual meeting, held this year in Philadelphia on December 6 and 7, was a business meeting of four sessions limited to delegates with credentials who assembled from many States, with representation from as far west as California.

The National Board in its opening statement said, "At previous annual meetings we have been able to send greetings to the members of the International Committee of Women for Permanent Peace, of which we are the section for the United States. Now, with the entrance of our country into this world war, we, as loyal citizens of a belligerent nation, are less able to serve that International Committee and to be in friendly communication with all its members. We are not, however released from the obligations of international comity, and we are still sympathetic to all the efforts making throughout the world for the substitution of law for war."

Recognizing that differences of method and of judgment existed between different branches, the National Board recommended and the delegates adopted resolutions which offered the widest range of propaganda and activity to the membership and precluded all attempts to secure a uniformity of statement as to details of opinion or action. Each branch which so desired was encouraged to adopt an individual name, and the National Board, which, by its organic relation with the International Committee of Women, is committed to distinctively international action, was given a free hand for such activity. Hereafter each State or local branch is "autonomous so far as name, policy, propaganda, publications and activities of any sort are concerned," the nexus being the common platform, and constitution with federation through the National Board.

The most important resolutions passed were in recog-

nition of the fact that "all territorial readjustments and other features of the war settlement will be profoundly affected by the question as to whether the plan for a League of Nations, providing for universal disarmament and open eventually to all nations, shall be made an integral part of the war settlement. Such a League would abolish the former balance of power and the continuance of the war system." These resolutions were:

"That the Woman's Peace Party shall in every way possible promote a public demand that an agreement for a League of Nations shall be made the basis of the war settlement, and it hereby petitions the Government to urge as speedily as possible upon the Allied governments an explicit agreement to this end, that all nations on the earth may know that they will be assured mutual protection and economic equality upon the complete establishment of a such a League. Also,

"That the Woman's Peace Party shall initiate a nation-wide campaign for the creation of public sentiment behind the following demands:

"1. That an Inter-Allied Conference be called at the earliest possible date for the formulation and announcement of the political and economic aims of the Allied governments.

"2. That this proposed Conference shall be in the form of a Parliament to be composed, not only of representatives of the governments, but also of elected representatives of the peoples whose welfare is involved in the decisions of the Conference.

"3. That this form of Conference be adopted at the final Peace Conference, thus insuring a democratic settlement and laying the basis for an enduring peace."

Miss Jane Addams presided at all sessions, coming directly from addresses in Colorado on food conservation under the direction of Mr. Hoover and on her way to Florida to continue the same work. She gave a valuable report of the International Committee of Women for Permanent Peace, of which she is also chairman. This organization was established in April, 1915, at The Hague. Miss Addams, summoned to take the chairmanship of a large body of delegates from the neutral and warring countries, headed a body of over forty Americans who joined with them in a three days' conference in drawing up a series of resolutions which have since been strikingly paralleled by President Wilson in his messages. So strong was the resemblance that these have been published in parallel columns.

Since then over twenty countries have organized national sections, and several others, including China and Japan, have committees. Miss Addams spoke particularly of the work done by the British Branch under the title of "The Women's International League," in caring for interned enemy aliens, and of that of the German branch in turn in caring for English prisoners. Efforts were made to secure a meeting last summer of members of the International Committee, but the difficulties in the way were insurmountable. It is expected, however, that representatives of the neutral sections will assemble in Holland in January.

The various national sections plan to send each a delegation of thirty-five delegates and alternates to unite in a Congress of Women within a month of the opening

of the war settlement, to renew as soon as possible those relationships that have been sundered and to bring the voice of the womanhood of the world to bear on those who will hold the destinies of the nations in their hands.

The first plank of the platform was changed from that written three years ago: "The immediate calling of a neutral conference in the interest of early peace," to "a league of nations, open to all nations, to be made an integral part of the war settlement."

The Secretary in her report said: "We rejoice that other organizations are taking up the question of the conscientious objector, the preservation of civil rights, etc., but we have not departed, and ought not to depart, as an organization from our special educational and congressional work, which was never more sadly needed, and for which we ought to fit ourselves in the reconstruction period which we now face." This did not imply that the various branches are not doing relief work as well. After careful consideration of a special relief work among women and children in the war-devastated regions it was found that so much varied work had already been begun that it was better for each branch and each member to carry on such work independently. The Secretary reported on her addresses given this year in eleven different States, and said that since our entrance into war she was finding no difficulty in presenting the essential principles of the organization under such titles as "The New Preparedness," "After the War, What?" "The Teacher's Task in War Time" and "Civic Efficiency in War Time." With a little tact, even in a superheated atmosphere, it has been possible to speak to grammar, high, and normal schools, to clubs and churches upon what the world will be if the war system continues after this war; to show that war cannot end war; that shrapnel and tanks cannot usher in the era of human brotherhood; that military victory alone cannot ensure a world safe for democracy, and to show to appreciative listeners the stupendous importance of a democratic war settlement on the basis of a League of Nations. So far from the work of the Woman's Peace Party being suspended, it was never more needed. If rightly understood it ought to bring large accession of members now.

The fact that its purposes have so often been misunderstood induced the strong Massachusetts branch to urge unanimously a change of name. This was, however, voted down. Since all New York members are now voters, the New York branch will focus its attention on persuading women to use their vote to promote a just war settlement and to secure as many as possible of the 43 Congressmen to pledge themselves to a war settlement based on a League of Nations, universal disarmament and free trade. The little paper issued under its auspices will be discontinued.

Miss Addams as national chairman, Mrs. Anna Garlin Spencer as first vice chairman, and Mrs. Mead as national secretary, were re-elected. Mrs. Eleanor G. Karsten will act as executive secretary at the national headquarters, Chicago. Of the new members of the board none is better fitted to deal with international questions than Prof. Emily G. Balch, of Wellesley College, who is just now issuing a book entitled, "Some Approaches to the Great Settlement."

On Thursday evening the delegates adjourned to listen to addresses by Dr. Frederick Lynch and Mr. Norman Angell, and the meeting closed with remarks by Miss Addams. Mr. Angell's address on "An Inter-Allied Conference" displayed masterly statesmanship. He showed the imperative necessity, if military victory is to be achieved, of harmonizing the various political aims of the Allies and of the need of long preparation in advance if the people are to have any voice in the war settlement. Unless the people now insist that they are to be represented in this momentous settlement a small body of eminent gentlemen, as out of touch with ordinary humanity as Lord Milner and Sir Edward Carson, will sit behind closed doors and will shape the future of mankind for generations. When over twenty nations are involved, whatever is agreed to cannot be changed for a long time to come, however much the weary and disappointed masses may fret and suffer.

Nothing in all history equals the far-reaching significance of the settlement which an unprepared world is ere long to face. The chief task of the Woman's Peace Party, as of every peace society in the precious time before that great event, is to spread the knowledge necessary to a just and lasting peace.

## THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY

By HAROLD G. TOWNSEND

**E**ACH day drives home more and more the force and logic of the new slogan of the American Peace Society, "A Governed World." Without the fulfillment of this proposal there can be no such thing as a world peace that is durable. The education of the people to a full conception of this great fact and principle is the responsibility and privilege of the American Peace Society. Other organizations have presented proposals which are quite acceptable as details of a scheme for world peace, but the proposal of the American Peace Society of "A Governed World" is a comprehensive and all-inclusive plan that has for its sanction, not only principle and logic, but practicability. It is not only the proper function, but the obligation of the oldest peace organization in America to stress with earnestness and enthusiasm by speech, pen, and argument this great principle of world freedom and international peace. Never in its history has such a great opportunity been available to promote the object for which the Society was founded. To meet this challenge in an hour when those members who do not possess a true knowledge of its objective are relinquishing their former adherence calls forth sacrifice, patience, endurance and the highest confidence from the faithful and the better informed.

In re-examining the program of the Society entrusted with this great responsibility we find its logic and practicability coincides with the program and logic of the United States of America in becoming, against its wishes, a participant in the present world war. Therefore, the members of the American Peace Society can participate to the fullest degree in promoting every agency which will aid in winning a victory which prom-